The above example demonstrates in concrete terms how to implement the normalized score method in the tagging application scenario. While this invention has been particularly described with reference to specific embodiments, those of skill in the art will recognize that changes to specific embodiments may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the present invention.

CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A method of selecting documents from a data stream, comprising:

selecting a resource having information comparable to said data stream:

selecting at least one topic;

analyzing said topic against said resource;

analyzing said topic against said data stream; and

comparing results from said data stream analysis to results from said resource analysis to select a document from said data stream.

2. A method of selecting documents from a data stream, comprising:

selecting a profile;

analyzing a reference corpus of documents against said profile to determine at least one score;

scoring at least one document from said data stream against said profile; and

comparing said scores from said data stream document to said at least one score from said reference corpus to select said document from said data stream.

3. A method as in claim 2, further comprising:

determining a plurality of reference corpus scores defining a plurality of delivery ratios; and

determining a delivery ratio that corresponds to said score from said data stream document to select said data stream document.

4. A method as in claim 3, wherein said delivery ratios correspond to said reference corpus scores according to an exponential decay function.

5. A method as in claim 4, wherein said exponential decay function is defined as:

Sub A1

$$r_k = \frac{1-a^{-k}}{1-a^{-(n+1)}}$$

wherein k, correspond to an integer, $a \in (1, \infty)$, and r_k corresponds to a delivery ratio.

6. A method as in claim 3, wherein said delivery ratios correspond to said reference corpus scores according to a power law function.

7. A method, as in claim 6, wherein said power law function is defined as:

$r_k = (K/(N+1))^{(1/S)}$, wherein $S \in (1, \infty)$.

8. A method of retrieving information from a data source, comprising:

receiving an information request from a communications network;

selecting a data source;

selecting a resource having information comparable to said selected data source;

selecting at least one topic;

analyzing said topic against said resource;

analyzing said topic against said selected data source; and

comparing results from said selected data source analysis to results from said resource analysis to retrieve at least one document from said selected data source; and

transmitting said retrieved documents over said communications network.

9. A method of retrieving information from a data source, comprising:

receiving an information request from a communications network;

selecting a data source;

selecting a profile;

Sub A1

analyzing a reference corpus of documents against said profile to determine at least one score;

scoring at least one document from said selected data source against said profile; and

comparing said scores from said selected data source documents to said at least one score from said reference corpus to retrieve at least one document from said selected data source; and

transmitting said retrieved documents over said communications network.

10. A method as in claim 9, further comprising:

determining a plurality of reference corpus scores defining a plurality of delivery ratios; and

determining a delivery ratio that corresponds to said score from said data stream document to select said data stream document.

11. A method as in claim 10, wherein said delivery ratios correspond to said reference corpus scores according to an exponential decay function.

12. A method as in claim 11, wherein said exponential decay function is defined as:

$$r_k = \frac{1 - a^{-k}}{1 - a^{-(n+1)}}$$

wherein k, correspond to an integer, $a \in (1, \infty)$, and r_k corresponds to a delivery ratio.

13. A method as in claim 10, wherein said delivery ratios correspond to said reference corpus scores according to a power law function.

14. A method, as in claim 13, wherein said power law function is defined as:

$r_k = (K/(N+1))^{(1/S)}$, wherein $S \in (1, \infty)$.

15. A computer system for retrieving information from a data source, comprising:

a central processing unit coupled to a memory unit, an input system and a communications network;

said central processing unit executes instructions retrieved from said memory in response to commands entered into said input system, said central processing unit transmits a request over said communications network, said request causes a computer system receiving said request to:

i) select a data source;

ii) select a profile;

iii) analyze a reference corpus of documents against said profile to determine at least one score;

iv) score at least one document from said selected data source against said profile;

v) compare said scores from said selected data source documents to said at least one score from said reference corpus to select at least one document from said selected data source; and

vi) transmit said selected documents over said communications network; and

said central processing unit executes instructions to retrieve said selected documents from said communications network.

16. A system, as in claim 15, wherein said receiving computer system:

determines a plurality of reference corpus scores defining a plurality of delivery ratios; and

determines a delivery ratio that corresponds to said score from said data stream document to select said data stream document.

17. A system as in claim 16, wherein said delivery ratios correspond to said reference corpus scores according to an exponential decay function.

18. A method as in claim 17, wherein said exponential decay function is defined as:

$$r_k = \frac{1-a^{-k}}{1-a^{-(n+1)}}$$

wherein k, correspond to an integer, $a \in (1, \infty)$, and r_k corresponds to a delivery ratio.

19. A method as in claim 17, wherein said delivery ratios correspond to said reference corpus scores according to a power law function.

20. A method, as in claim 19, wherein said power law function is defined as:

$r_k = (K/(N+1))^{(1/S)}$, wherein $S \in (1, \infty)$.